

St. Croix County Recycling Guidelines

Wish-Cycling

Many Americans may be "**wishful recyclers**" in that they place items that won't get recycled into their curbside bins.

These might be items that need to be recycled through other methods or they may think there is a component that is recyclable and someone at the recycling center will figure it out. *This is not true.*

All items received at recycling centers need to be readily sorted into glass, plastic, metal or paper/cardboard.

This act is unknowingly creating more harm than good by contaminating recycling streams, which unfortunately sends everything to the landfill.

Check-out the **A-Z Recycling & Disposal Guide**:
<https://www.sccwi.gov/Recycling>



How to Prepare Your Recyclables:

- **All containers need to be empty of liquids and food**
- **Rinse off food residue**
- **Labels do not have to be removed**
- **No need to crush cans or plastic bottles** (small items are difficult to process)
- **Put caps back on plastics**
- **Do not put recyclables inside plastic bags**
(recyclables should be disposed of loosely in the container)

Recycling Plastic Bags and Film

Plastic bags tangle up and get stuck in recycling sorting equipment – which can shut down an entire recycling plant!

Keep plastic bags and film out of your recycling bin.

Gather your plastic bags and plastic films separately (**stretchy plastics** like grocery, zip-lock, dry-cleaning bags, along with films around water bottles and paper products). Keep clean and dry.

Bring into your local grocery store, Target or Walmart.



Aluminum and Metal Cans

- Beverage cans, food cans + lids (soup, vegetable, fruit, broth, etc.), pet food cans,
- **NO** foil or food trays (because of food residue)

Glass Bottles & Jars

- Food jars and beverage bottles
- **NO** windows, dishes, Pyrex, ceramics or light bulbs

Plastics #1-2 (ask your hauler if they take #3-7)

- Plastic bottles, jugs, jars & tubs (put caps back on)
- **NO** styrofoam egg cartons, cups, plates or packaging material

Mixed Paper (clean and dry or it will mold)

- Newspaper, envelopes, magazines, catalogs, office paper, paperback and phone books
- Shredded paper (put in paper bag, fold top, tape closed, label "shredded paper")
- **NO** used paper plates, cups, napkins, tissues - compostable, but not recyclable

Corrugated Cardboard (break down and flatten)

- Food/baking boxes (remove plastic liners), paper bags, manila envelopes, file folders
- **NO** pizza boxes, detergent boxes, waxy frozen or refrigerated food boxes

Curbside recycling is not the only option

Once you have considered all other options, then find the correct avenue for recycling before throwing it in the trash.

Not all recyclable items can go in your curbside container.

Curbside:	provided by your local hauler
Drop-off:	provided by your town or municipality (check with your town for their recycling guidelines)
Collection Events:	St. Croix County has collection events every spring and fall for Tires, Appliances, Electronics and Hazardous Waste
Take-back:	programs at retail locations for recycling plastic bags, printer cartridges, light bulbs, batteries, electronics
Mail-In or Re-claim:	manufacturer's may offer programs to reclaim materials used in their products or packaging



For additional recycling information, go to our website: www.sccwi.gov/Recycling

- Recycling options for items not accepted curbside: **A-Z Recycling & Disposal Guide**
- Collection event dates and details for Appliance, Electronics, Tires and Hazardous Waste

Under State Law 287:

All residents, businesses and organizations are required to recycle.